

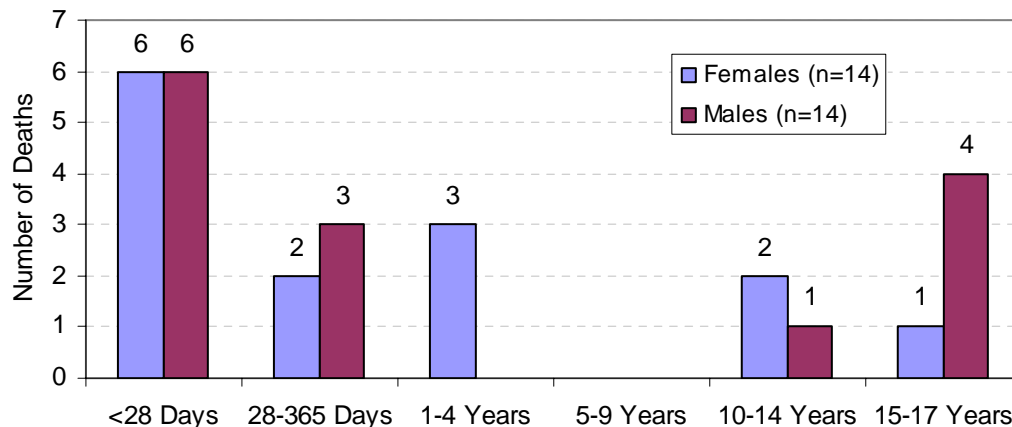


2006 CHILD FATALITY REVIEW FOR MOHAVE COUNTY

DEMOGRAPHICS

During 2006, 28 children who resided in Mohave County died before reaching their 18th birthdays. Males and females each accounted for 50 percent of child deaths in this county (n=14). More than half of all child deaths occurred in children younger than one year of age (61 percent, n=17). Figure 1 shows deaths among children by gender and age group.

Figure 1. Deaths Among Children by Gender and Age Group, Mohave County, Arizona 2006 (n=28)

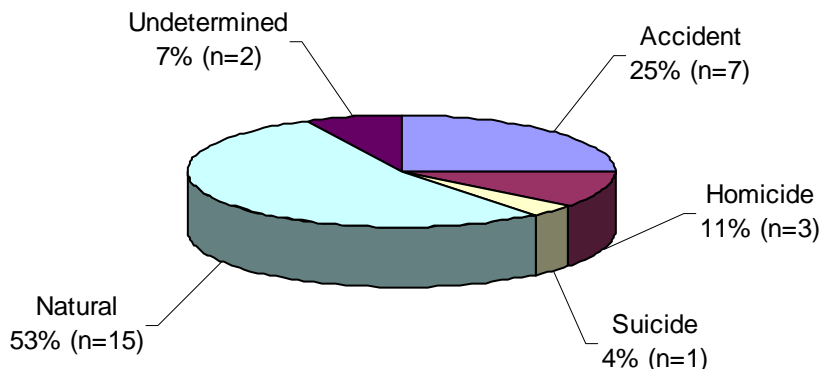


Deaths were over-represented among Hispanic children in Mohave County. Hispanic children comprised 20 percent of the population but 32 percent of the fatalities (n=9). Non-Hispanic White children comprised 73 percent of the population and 68 percent of the fatalities (n=19).

CAUSE AND MANNER OF CHILD FATALITIES

Fifty-three percent of deaths were natural (n=15); 25 percent were due to accidents (n=7); eleven percent were homicides (n=3); four percent were suicides (n=1); and seven percent were of undetermined manner (n=2). Figure 2 shows deaths among children by manner.

Figure 2. Deaths Among Children by Manner, Mohave County, Arizona 2006 (n=28)



There were 15 child deaths classified as natural, including six from medical causes and nine from prematurity. Three children died in motor vehicle crashes, and three children died due to blunt force trauma. There were two drowning fatalities. Table 1 shows deaths among children by cause and manner.

Cause	Accident	Homicide	Suicide	Natural	Undetermined	Total
Prematurity				9		9
Medical*				6		6
Motor vehicle crash	3					3
Blunt force trauma		3				3
Undetermined	1				2	3
Drowning	2					2
Suffocation/strangulation	1					1
Hanging			1			1
Total	7	3	1	15	2	28

*Excluding prematurity

PREVENTABILITY

Child Fatality Review Teams consider a child's death preventable if something could have been done (by an individual such as the caretaker or supervisor, or by the community as a whole) that would have prevented the death. Local Child Fatality

Review Teams determined that 33 percent of the deaths among Mohave County children could have been prevented (n=5).

During the review of each child's death, teams identify factors believed to have contributed to the death. Although the presence of a contributing factor typically led to the determination that a death was preventable, this was not always the case. For example, the team might have concluded that an unsafe sleep environment (e.g. infant left sleeping on a couch) was a contributing factor in an unexpected infant death. However, the team may not have had sufficient information (e.g. autopsy report, adequate scene investigation) to determine if the death could have been prevented.

In Mohave County, substance use was a contributing factor in three child deaths (11 percent), and lack of supervision contributed to two deaths (seven percent). Lack of vehicle restraints was a factor in two deaths (seven percent). More than one factor may have been identified for each death. Table 2 shows the most common factors contributing to the deaths of child residents of Mohave County.

Table 2. Contributing Factors for Deaths Among Children, Mohave County, Arizona 2006		
Factor*	Number	Percent
Drugs/alcohol	3	11%
Lack of supervision	2	7%
Lack of vehicle restraint	2	7%
*More than one factor may have been identified for each death		

CHILD FATALITIES IN MOHAVE COUNTY COMPARED TO OTHER ARIZONA COUNTIES

This section provides comparisons between the deaths of children who resided in Mohave County and the deaths of children who resided in the remaining 14 Arizona counties. During 2006, 28 children who were residents of Mohave County died, and 1,062 children died who were residents of the other 14 counties. Thirty-three percent of the deaths of Mohave County children could have been prevented (n=5), and 37 percent of the child deaths in the remaining counties were determined to have been preventable (n=394).

Prematurity was the leading cause of child deaths in Mohave County (32 percent), but was the second leading cause in the remainder of Arizona (26 percent). Medical conditions accounted for 21 percent of deaths in Mohave County but comprised 40 percent of child deaths in the rest of Arizona. Motor vehicle crashes accounted for 11 percent of deaths in Mohave County and 13 percent in the remaining counties. Table 3 shows the leading causes of child deaths for Mohave County compared to the rest of Arizona.

Table 3. Leading Causes of Child Deaths, Mohave County, Arizona 2006			
Mohave County (n=28)		Arizona, Excluding Mohave County (n=1,062)	
Cause	Percent of Deaths	Cause	Percent of Deaths
Prematurity	32%	Medical	40%
Medical	21%	Prematurity	26%
Motor vehicle crash	11%	Motor vehicle crash	13%

In Mohave County, the largest percentage of deaths were natural (53 percent), and in the remaining counties, natural deaths accounted for 65 percent of child deaths. Accidents accounted for 25 percent of child deaths in Mohave County and 21 percent in the remaining counties. There was a larger percentage of homicides in Mohave County (11 percent), compared to the rest of the state (six percent). Table 4 shows deaths among children by manner for Mohave County compared to the rest of Arizona.

Table 4. Deaths Among Children by Manner, Mohave County, Arizona 2006			
Mohave County (n=28)		Arizona, excluding Mohave County (n=1,062)	
Manner	Percent of Deaths	Manner	Percent of Deaths
Natural	53%	Natural	65%
Accident	25%	Accident	21%
Homicide	11%	Homicide	6%
Undetermined	7%	Suicide	4%
Suicide	4%	Undetermined	3%